Guardianship Program Rules

408 Medical Decisions

408.1 The guardian shall provide informed consent on behalf of the incapacitated person for the provision of care, treatment and services and shall ensure that such care, treatment and services represents the least invasive form of intervention that is appropriate and available. The components of informed consent include, but are not necessarily limited to, an understanding by the guardian of: (1) the reason for, and nature of, the treatment (2) the benefits of and necessity for the treatment; (3) the possible risks, side effects and other consequences of the treatment and (4) alternative treatments or measures that are available and their respective risks, side effects, and benefits.

408.2 The duty to provide informed consent does not prevent a guardian from electing to make code status decisions in advance of need.

408.3 The guardian shall be familiar with the law regarding the withholding or withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment.

408.4 The guardian shall actively promote the health of the incapacitated person by arranging for regular preventative care including but not limited to dental care, diagnostic testing, and routine medical examinations to the extent preventative care and resources are available.

408.5 The guardian shall be available to respond to urgent need for medical decisions. The guardian shall provide instructions regarding treatment or non-treatment to be followed by medical staff in emergencies.